



Comic Snapshots



EARLY ENGLISH HISTORY

by
Wil. The. Parkes.



LONDON: ERNEST NISTER. NEW YORK: E.P. DUTTON & CO.



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London
ERNEST NISTER

Printed in Bavaria
1153

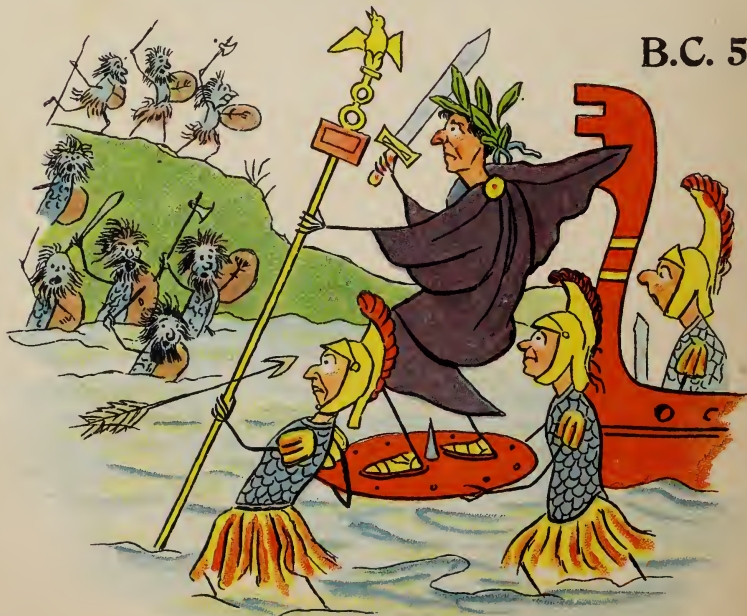
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B.C. 55.



Britain discovered by Julius Cæsar.

B.C. 55.



He lands on the shores of Kent.

B.C. 54.



The first knowledge of England, that deserves notice,
was given by the Romans.

B.C. 53.



And they first introduced the Order of the Bath to the
attention of the Ancient Britons.

B.C. 53.



A pleasing Christmas custom was introduced in a simple little Christian way under the mistletoe in the last days of the Druids.

B.C. 53.



The Druidic bards inspired the people with courage, and chanted strains of frolic at the festive board.

A.D. 50.



Shabby betrayal of Caractacus, the British Chief, by his stepmother Cartismandua, Queen of the Brigantes.



Made captive, he is loaded with chains and brought in triumph to Rome, on a visit to the Emperor Claudius.

A.D. 59.



Boadicea, Queen of the Iceni, fights her last battle on Hampstead Heath, slaying seventy thousand Romans.

A.D. 70.



Instead of the native mantle, the Britons now dressed in the graceful Roman toga, with other suitable adornments.

And with much pride the British youths, clad in Roman armour, marched with the Roman legions to the wars.



A.D. 70.



Roman gardening also, of cabbages, onions, apples and roses, brought moments of pride to the British amateur.



A.D. 208.

Afflicted with gout, old and infirm, the Roman Emperor Severus leads his army against the Caledonians.



A.D. 289.

Carausius, the first Count of the Saxon shore, manned ships of war with pirates, swept the seas, and usurped the Roman Government.

A.D. 305.



During the reign of the Roman Emperor Constantius the arts of peace were cultivated in Britain.

A.D. 307.



Constantine reluctantly accepts the purple robe of imperial power from the Roman army at York.

A.D. 449.



The Sea Kings were men of great size, with blue eyes, ruddy complexion and yellow hair; men of sword, mace, spear and axe.

A.D. 451.



The beautiful Rowena, daughter of Hengist, the Saxon King, presents a bowl of wine to Vortigern, Duke of Cornwall.

A.D. 451.



Saying sweetly: "Good King wass-heil!" at which Vortigern is much moved, and greets her with a kiss. Hengist and Horsa chuckle, and Vortigern marries the maid.

A.D. 465.



In a war with Ambrosius Aurelius, Vortigern is compelled to fly to the woods in Wales, where he builds a castle.

A.D. 467.



Which proved an evil trap, for within its walls bold
Vortigern and the fair Rowena were burnt by Ambrosius
Aurelius.



Saxon Invasion.

A.D. 477.

Ella and his three sons Cymen,
Wlenking, and Cissa come to Britain in three ships.



A.D. 477.

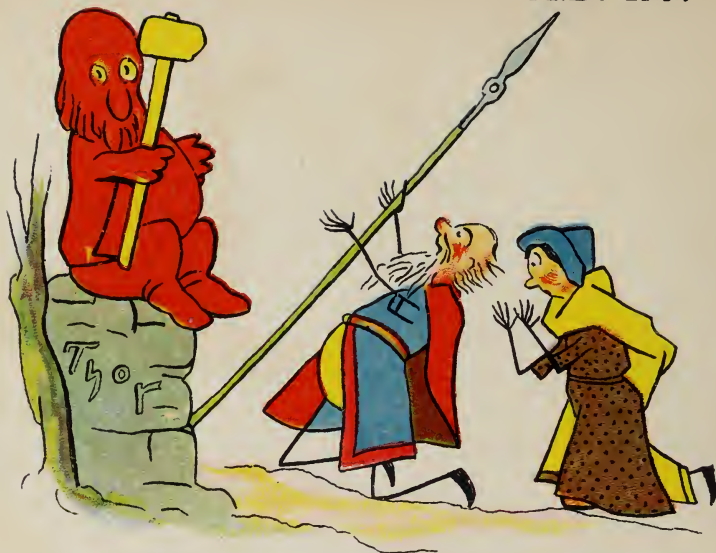
Where they make sore havoc by slaying the Welsh,
and founded the kingdom of Sussex.

A.D. 477.



When the Saxons came to Britain they
worshipped idols.

A.D. 477.



To which they prayed for success in war and peace.

A.D. 856.



Alfred competes with his brothers, and wins a lovely picture-book by reciting its poems to his mother.

A.D. 870.



When about to invade East Anglia, Juguar and Hubba, the Danish Chiefs, were blown ashore at Berwick-on-Tweed.

A.D. 871.



The terror of Alfred's name was such, that gold might be hung by the roadside and no thief would dare to touch.

A.D. 875.



King Alfred made a war-ship, and cruising round the southern shores he met seven tall ships. He captured one, and the others fled. This was the first English victory at sea.



A.D. 878.

At Chippenham, during his Christmas dinner, King Alfred, surprised by the Danes, was forced to fly to the thickets of Selwood Forest.

A.D. 879.



Disguised as a tramp, King Alfred is compelled to seek work from Denewulfe, the neat-herd.

A.D. 879.



King Alfred gets a sore ear from the neat-herd's wife for allowing the cakes to burn.

A.D. 879.

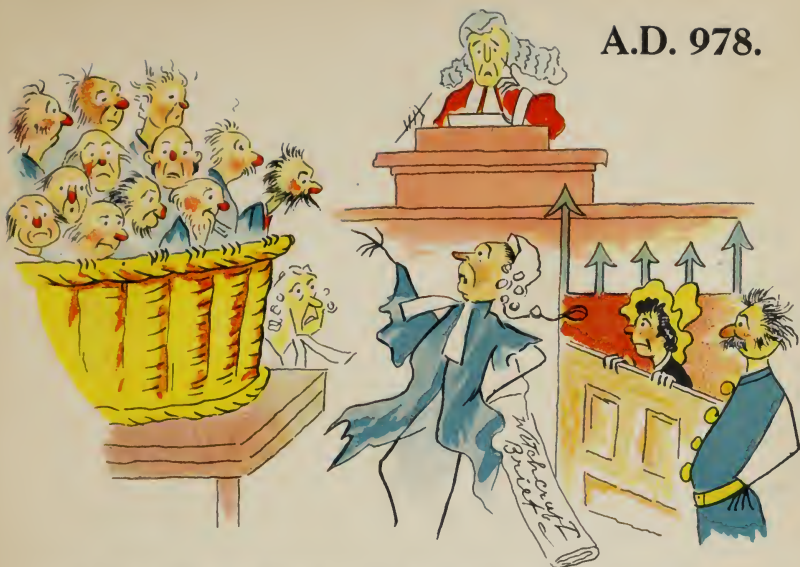


Disguised as a harper, King Alfred spies through the Danish Camp.



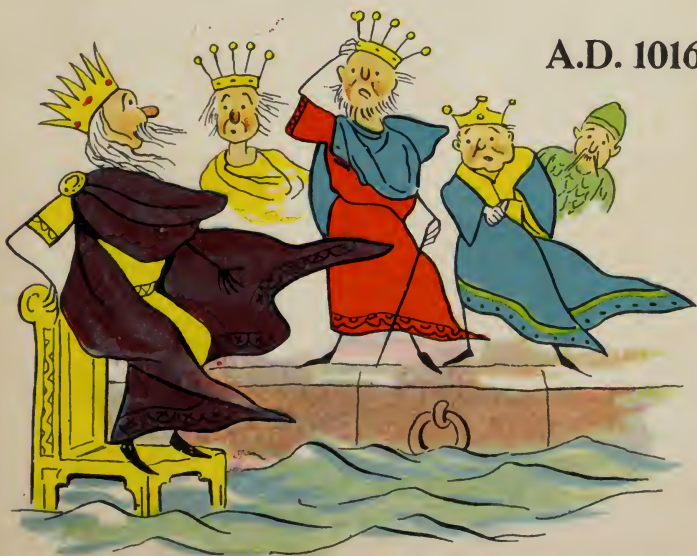
A.D. 978.

Ethelred the Unready saves his kingdom by paying great sums of gold to Sweyn, the Norse-invader.



A.D. 978.

Trial by jury of twelve was first instituted in this reign, when jury packing was also resorted to as a wholesome check.



A.D. 1016.

By challenging the tide at Southampton King Canute proved to his courtiers what knaves they were.

A.D. 1016.



It was a foolish experiment that might have cost him his life, but for a timely pick-a-pack on a brave coastguard.

A.D. 1017.



King Canute in a fit of passion killed a soldier, and, in remorse, he laid aside his crown and sceptre, praying of the band that sentence should be passed on him. All were silent, whereupon he fined himself ninefold.



A.D. 1036.

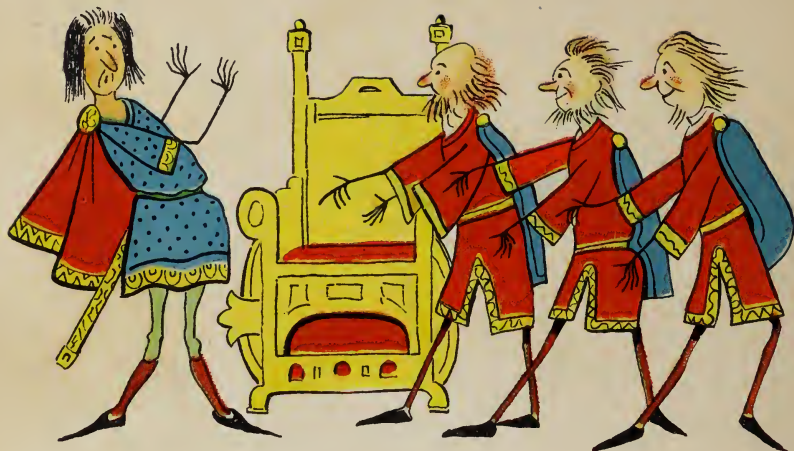
Canute left his crown to Hardicanute, but Harold Harefoot seized it without delay.

A.D. 1039.



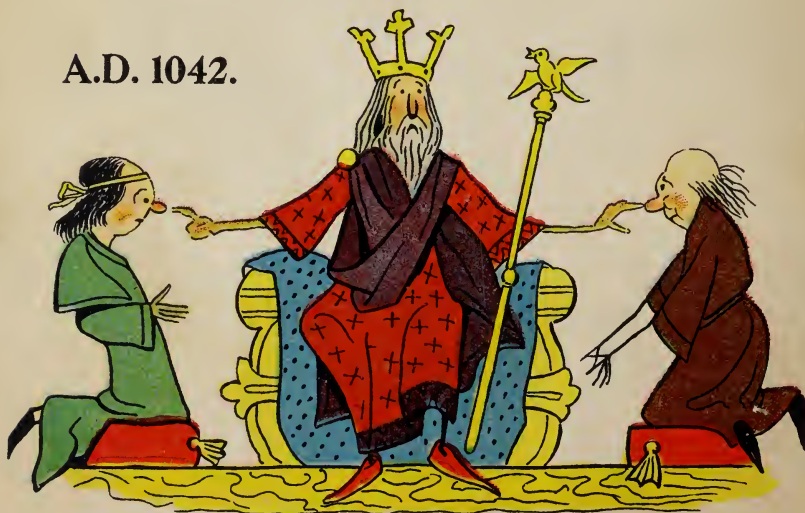
Hardicanute succeeds to the throne, and dies in a drinking-bout in Lambeth, at the marriage feast of Cytha, daughter of Osgood Clapa.

A.D. 1042.



Edward, the surviving son of Ethelred, being timid and feeble, was with difficulty persuaded to accept the throne.

A.D. 1042.



And is the first monarch of England who touches for the "King's Evil."

A.D. 1066.



William the Conqueror spies out the land of Britain.



Falls on it and takes it.



At which the Saxons wear worried looks.

A.D. 1067.



King William the first plants the New Forest, and by his curfew bell puts out all fires and lights at eight o'clock.



So Dorothy must darken the fire with the couvre-feu, and all good chicks must off to bed till to-morrow, when I may show more Comic Snapshots from English History.

Good-night.





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